CHARTER BY KING JAMES VI.

TO THE

FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.

JAMES, be the Grace of GOD, King of Scottis, to all provostis, baillies of burrowis, scheriffs, stewartis, baillies of regalities, and otheris, ministeris of justice within the boundis following, and their deputis, and all and sundrie otheris ouir leigis and subditis, quhom it efferis, quhase knawledge thir our letteris sal cume, greiting, WIT ZE WE, with avise o oure counsall, understanding the grit abusis quhilk hes bene comitted in time bigane, and zit daylie contineuis be ignorant, unskillit and unlernit personis, quha, under the collour of chirurgeanis, abuisis the people to thair plesure, passing away but tryel or punishment, and thairby destroyis infinite number of oure subjectis, quhairwith na ordour hes bene tane in tyme bigane, specially within oure burgh and baronie of Glasgow, Renfrew, Dumbartane, and oure sheriffdomes of Cliddisdale, Renfrew, Lanark, Kyill, Carrick, Air and Cuninghame; FOR avoiding of sik inconvenientis, and for gude ordoure to be tane in tyme cuming, to have made, constitutit and ordanit, and be the tenoure of thir our letteris, makis, constitutis, and ordinis Maister Peter Low, our chirurgiane, and chief chirurgiane to oure dearest son the Prince, with the assistance of Mr. Robert Hamiltone, professoure of medecine, and their successouris, indwelleris of our citie of Glasgow, GEVAND and GRANTAND to thame and thair successoures, full power to call, sumonnd, and convene before thame, within the said burgh of Glasgow, or onie otheris of ouir said burrowis or publict places of the foirsaids boundis, all personis professing or using the said airt of chirurgie, to examine thame upon thair literature, knawledge and practize; gif they be fund wordie, to admit, allow and approve thame, give them testimonial according to the airt and knawledge that they sal be fund wordie to exercise thareftir, resave thair aithis, and authorize thame as accordis, and to discharge thame to use onie farder nor they have knawledge passing thair capacity, laist our subjectis be abusit; and that every ane citat report testimonial of the minister and eldris, or magistratis of the parochin quhair they dwell, of thair life and conversatione; and in case they be contumax, being lauchfullie citat, everie ane to be unlawit in the soume

of

of fortie pundis, *toties quoties*, half to the judges, other half to be disponit at the visitoures plesure; and for payment thaireof, the said Mr. Peter and Mr. Robert, or visitoures, to have oure uthere letteris of horning, on the partie or magistriates quhair the contemptuous personis duellis, chargeing thame to poind thairfoire, within twentie-four houris, under the pain of horning; and the partie not haveand geir poindable, the magistrate, under the same pain, to incarcerate thame, quhill cautioun responsall be fund, that the contumax persone sall compir at sik day and place as the saidis visitouris sall appoint, gevan trial of thair qualifications; *Nixt*, that the saidis visitouris sall visit everie hurt, murtherit, poisonit, or onie other persoun tane awa extraordinarly, and to report to the magistrate of the fact as it is: *Thirdlie*, That it sall be leisum to the said visitouris, with the advice of thair bretheren, to mak statutis for the comoun weill of oure subjectis, anent the saidis artis, and using thairof faithfullie, and the braikeris thairof to be punshit and unlawit be the visitoures according to their falt: *Fordlie*, It sall not be leisum to onie mannir of personis within the foresaidis boundis to exercise medicine without ane testimonial of ane famous universitie quhair medecine be taught, or at the leave of oure and oure dearest spouse chief medicinarie; and in case they failzie, it sal be lesum to the saidis visitouris to challenge, perseu and inhibite thame throw useing and exercing of the said airt of medecine, under the pain of fourtie poundis, to be destributed, half to the judges, half to the pure, *toties quoties* they be fund in useing and exercing the same, ay and quhill they bring sufficient testimonial as said is: *Fythlie*, That na manir of personis sell onie droggis within the citie of Glasgow, except the sam be sichtit be the saidis visitouris, and be William Spang, apothecar, under the pane of confiscatioune of the droggis: *Sextlie*, That nane sell ratoun poison, asenick, or sublemate, under the pane of ane hundred merkis, excep onlie the apothecaries quha sall be bund to tak cautioun of the byaris, for coist, skaith, and damage: *Seventlie*, Yat the saidis visitouris, with thair bretherene and successouris, sall convene every first Mononday of ilk moneth at sum convenient place, to visite and give counsell to pure disaisit folkis gratis: And, *last of all*, Gevand and grantand to the saidis visitouris indwellers of Glasgow, professouris of the saidis airtis, and thair bretherene, p"nt and to cum, immunite and exemptioune from all wappin shawengis, raidis, oistis, beiring of armour, watching, weirding, stenting taxationis, passing on assises, inquestis, justice courtis,

courtis, scheriff or burrow courtis, in actiounes criminal or cival, notwithstanding of oure actis, lawis, and constitutionis thairoff, except in geving yairr counsall in materis appertaining to the saidis airtis; ORDAINING you, all the foresaidis provestis, baillies of burrowis, sheriffis, stewartis, baillies of regalities, and ötheris ministeris of justice, within the saidis boundis, and zoure deputis, to assist, fortifie, concur and defend the saidis visitouris, and thair posterior, professouris of the foresaidis artis, and put the saidis actis maid and to be maid to executioun; and that oure otheris letteris of our Sessioun be granted thereupon to charge thame to that effect within twentie four houris nixt after they be chargit thairto. GEVIN under oure previe seill, at Haliruid-house, the penult day of November, the zeir of God javc. and fourscore ninetein zeiris, and of oure regnn the threttie thre zeir.

Per Signaturam manu S. D. N. Regis nec non manibus Dominorum Ducis Lennocæ, Thesaurarii ac Scaccarii dicti. Domini Regis Subscriptam.

(Written on the Tag thus)

Litera Mag"ri Petri Low, Chirurgi, Et Mag"ri Roberti Hamiltone, Professoris Medicinæ.

Locus Sigili.

(Written on the back thus)

Written to the Privie Seil, Penult Novemb^r 1599.

J. HAY.

Glasgow
University Library

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